County News and Views

NOVEMBER 1998

From the Office of Fifth District Supervisor Jerry Eaves

NORTON REUSE DEVELOPMENTS ANNOUNCED

A number of significant developments with a very positive impact on the redevelopment of the former Norton Air Force Base have come to fruition recently. These developments are the culmination of five years of work between local officials and Washington, D.C. A delegation of Inland Valley Development Agency/San Bernardino International Airport Authority representatives traveled to Washington, D.C. to meet with the Air Force to discuss key issues related to the conveyance of the former Norton Air Force Base property.

Commitment was given by the Air Force to expedite two critical amendments to the original Economic Development Conveyance (EDC). They are as follows:

- Palm Meadows Golf Course: The Air Force has agreed to begin work on the next EDC which will transfer Palm Meadows Golf Course from the IVDA to SBIAA resulting in additional revenues of up to \$500,000 annually to support Airport operations.
- EDC amendments also include the transfer of property with a value of almost \$28 million and associated revenues from IVDA to SBIAA. This will reduce the original price from \$52 million to \$24.3 million. The balance owed to the Air Force will then be \$22.7 million.

Outstanding support has been provided during the extensive process by Congressmen Brown and Lewis. We are on the verge of something truly remarkable – creating a virtual Silicon Valley environment in our own backyard. The development of TecParc is a positive step toward the critical redevelopment of the former Air Force Base. Over time, TecParc will serve as a magnet for jobs, business growth and economic and educational

opportunity at this largely untapped resource. In particular, the current round of Federal appropriations has provided the following for reuse activities:

- \$3.7 million grant from the Federal Aviation Administration Military Airport Program.
- \$8.65 million grant for building demolition, program planning and design work for the proposed TecParc, a high technology, multi-phase development.
- \$1.3 million grant to be shared by San Bernardino Community College District and IVDA. The grant includes \$500,000 to the IVDA for economic development and \$850,000 to the San Bernardino Community College District.
- Strong support has been received for the Lease-Lease Back financing for the Airport which could result in \$10 to \$15 million in new funds for Airport operations.
- Also, underway are plans for SBIAA designation as a User Fee Airport.

Although much work is left to be done, these recent developments provide critical financial resources to develop the IVDA properties. In addition, the future is bright for significantly increasing the employment prospects and redevelopment potential in areas surrounding the former Norton Air Force Base.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

A Night With Will Rogers Starring James Whitmore November 21, 1998 at 8:00 PM Call (909) 381-5388 for more information.

Dr. Barry Pulliam Retirement Celebration November 20, 1998 at 5:00 PM Call (909) 387-4388 for more information.

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